

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN  
HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 9, 2006*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I would like to thank Congressman HONDA and the Asian Pacific American Caucus for organizing a special order tonight to honor Asian Pacific Americans and the great contributions they have made to our Nation. I would also like to say that I am very proud to be a member of the Tri-Caucus, which unites the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Congressional Black Caucus. Mr. Speaker, I strongly believe in the importance of honoring all of our country's unique cultures, and it is truly a privilege to participate in this special order.

Asian Pacific Americans have played a tremendous role in the development of our Nation. I would first like to acknowledge the late Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink, our first woman of color to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. She was a trailblazer for Asian Pacific Americans, and it is wonderful to see that her impact is still felt and that her legacy continues.

As Representative of California's Ninth U.S. Congressional District, APA Heritage month is especially important to me. Asian and Pacific Island American culture has a very large impact in the cities of my district.

My district is the birthplace of Amy Tan, a Chinese-American woman and New York Times bestselling author best known for her novel *The Joy Luck Club*, and its subsequent film adaptation. She has received countless acknowledgments including the Bay Area Book Reviewer's Award. Today, Ms. Tan's novels and short stories are a part of high schools and universities' literary curricula nationwide.

My district is also the birthplace of Fred Korematsu, born in Oakland to Japanese immigrants, who challenged the World War II internment of Japanese American citizens. As an American citizen Mr. Korematsu refused to go to an internment camp, but he was arrested, sent to one in 1942 and branded a spy by newspapers. He opposed the internment policy in the Supreme Court, but in its ignoble 1944 decision the Supreme Court upheld the policy. In 1983 Mr. Korematsu appealed his conviction, which a Federal court overturned acknowledging that the Government's case at the time had been based on misleading and racially biased information. President Bill Clinton awarded Mr. Korematsu the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998, honoring Mr. Korematsu for fighting for human rights and ensuring the very liberties that created this great Nation.

Today, the legacy of Asian Pacific American leaders such as Ms. Tan and Mr. Korematsu

is apparent in the numerous remarkable programs and initiatives in APA communities throughout my district. There are several that I would like to recognize, including Oakland Asian Students Educational Services also known as OASES. As the city of Oakland is one of three cities in the Bay Area that has the lowest high school graduation rates for Asian students, this organization works to decrease cultural gaps in education. OASES reaches out to all youth with limited resources and limited educational opportunities, particularly children of Asian Pacific Islander families.

I would also like to recognize the Oakland Asian Cultural Center. This center works by employing the belief that upholding cultural tradition and honoring cultural heritage are at the core of maintaining healthy and lively communities. The center presents a variety of cultural festivities and artistic expression in dance, literature, music and visual arts. The center is an excellent resource for understanding the legacy of Asian and Pacific Island Americans and their great influence on the cultural identities of our communities.

My district is also home to several of the nation's leading health care providers for APA communities. Asian Community Mental Health Services, for example, is an organization that offers access to and increases community acceptance of mental healthcare, which in many APA communities remains taboo. Asian Health Services is another organization that works to ensure that members of APA communities can overcome challenges to obtaining high-quality, affordable healthcare due to language barriers, income, lack of insurance coverage and cultural differences.

Lastly, I would like to bring special attention to Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice (ACRJ) and its Executive Director, Ms. Eveline Shen. Founded in 1989, ACRJ has been a longtime leader in ensuring that APA women and girls are equipped with the tools to make important decisions about their reproductive health. Under the leadership of Ms. Shen, ACRJ places reproductive health and freedom at the center of promoting social and economic freedom for APA women in the shadows of patriarchal cultures. During her nearly two decades of community organizing and eight years at ACRJ, Ms. Shen has become a leader in building a social justice movement in APA communities, which is one of the fastest growing constituencies in California and in my district. I commend Ms. Shen and ACRJ's dedication to assisting APA women to obtain the American promise of "liberty and justice for all."

As our Nation is home to so many people from all over the world, it is important that we continue to bring attention to the issues that affect all communities. It is our responsibility to ensure that no one is ignored and that equal attention is given to all groups. It is also our duty to seek justice for those who are underrepresented. And, lastly, it is our privilege to come together to celebrate the accomplishments of the many leaders throughout American history, who have embodied excel-

lence in advancing the principles of democracy, freedom and justice for all of our communities and strengthening the foundation of America.

Mr. Speaker, again I would like to thank Mr. HONDA and the APA Caucus for inviting me to participate in this special order. Let us continue to unite, pay tribute to Asian Pacific Americans and remember the importance their outstanding contributions to our Nation.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN  
HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 9, 2006*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, today and throughout the month of May, we celebrate the many contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made to the fabric of our communities and to this Nation as a whole.

More than 100 Members of Congress work together in the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to promote Asian Pacific American issues and concerns, and I'm pleased that we are led by my long-time friend and colleague, Congressman MIKE HONDA.

Congressman HONDA and I are proud to represent San Jose, California and surrounding areas, a community blessed with diversity and culture from around the world, including close to 350,000 Asian Pacific Americans.

Some notable Asian Pacific Americans from our area include Norman Mineta, the longest serving Secretary in the history of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the first Asian American mayor of a major U.S. city, and the first Asian American Cabinet member during the Clinton Administration.

San Jose Councilmember Madison Nguyen is another extraordinary Asian Pacific American. She is the first Vietnamese American woman elected to office in the State of California.

Another distinguished Asian Pacific American from the San Jose area is Dr. Allan Seid who founded Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), the largest social services nonprofit organization serving the Asian Pacific American community in Santa Clara County.

Vinod Khosla has contributed immensely to Silicon Valley as a distinguished venture capitalist and a co-founder of Sun Microsystems, headquartered in Santa Clara, California, a company that has grown into one of the largest providers of computers, computer components, software, and information-technology services.

In this Congress, there are five Asian Pacific Americans serving our Nation and their communities as members of the House of Representatives, as well as one delegate from

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

American Samoa and two Asian Pacific Americans serving in the Senate. I am proud that the California Democratic Delegation includes two of these Representatives from the Asian Pacific American community.

In the field of science and technology, Asian Pacific Americans have long contributed to our country, from Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-American in space, to Flossi Wong-Staal and Dr. David D. Ho, for their work on HIV and AIDS. Moreover, several Asian Pacific Americans have received Nobel Prizes for their accomplishments in science and technology.

Hundreds of thousands of Asian Pacific Americans have also loyally served our Nation in the military willing to give their life for the United States of America. Asian Pacific American veterans of the Armed Forces number 312,700.

In sports, Asian Pacific Americans have helped bring home Olympic gold medals for the United States, including the first woman to win gold medals in the ten and three meter diving events—Filipina American Victoria Manalo Draves.

Although it is important for us to celebrate Asian Pacific American heritage this month, we must not forget the plight that Asian Pacific Americans endure despite the community's many accomplishments.

The pitfalls of immigration law and the backlog of immigration applications continue to prevent many Asian Pacific American families from reuniting for several years.

We must also not forget that the APA community suffers from greater poverty than non-Hispanic Whites, especially in the Hmong, Laotian, Cambodian, and Vietnamese American communities.

We must work to ensure that Asian Pacific Americans are appropriately counted when our government collects data that will be used to understand the needs of the APA community.

We must make every effort to invite Asian Pacific Americans to participate in government to ensure that our government meets the needs of the APA community.

In commemoration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I honor the contributions of millions of Asian Pacific Americans who have contributed to our nation and who I am sure will continue to contribute in the future. But while I celebrate this month, I also renew my pledge to address the issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans around the country.

#### RECOGNIZING BRADY MILLER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brady Miller, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brady has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. For his Eagle Scout project, he constructed a 114 foot walking trail off the main trail at Platte Ridge Park for the Platte County Parks and Recre-

ation Department. Over the many years Brady has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brady Miller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRIBUTE TO STODDART-FLEISHER MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Stoddart-Fleisher Middle School, located in North Central Philadelphia. The Stoddart-Fleisher School will be closing this summer after providing 80 years of service to our community.

Throughout its history, this fine school has played an important role in the community and it has always provided a quality education to its attending students. Stoddart-Fleisher was the product of a merger in 1950 of the Stoddard and Fleisher schools. Both schools have a history of providing vocational and regular academic training for students in the area of North Central Philadelphia. In recent years, Stoddard has been a neighborhood school for seventh and eighth grade students.

The continued growth of kindergarten through eighth grade schools throughout the city as well as a population shift to other parts of the city have resulted in declining enrollment for Stoddard, especially within the past 5 years. This summer will mark the end of a great era in public education for North Central Philadelphia and we are sad to see our community lose such a respected institution.

On June 16th, there will be a commemorative reception and program for Stoddard's closing and hopefully other schools will pay close attention to and follow in the tradition of the Stoddard-Fleisher Middle School.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE LEOPOLD BORRELLO

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Leopold Borrello as he retires from an illustrious career as a Saginaw County Michigan jurist. Judge Borrello will be honored at a reception on May 23 in Saginaw by the community.

A native of Saginaw, Judge Borrello started working when he was in the third grade at his father's grocery store. After graduating from Saginaw High School in 1951, Judge Borrello received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Albion College and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1958. He returned to the Saginaw area and opened a practice of law. He worked in solo practice and for several firms before heading

up his own firm of Borrello, Thomas and Jensen.

In 1987 Governor James Blanchard appointed him to the 10th Judicial Circuit Court. Judge Borrello became Chief Judge of the 10th Judicial Circuit Court in 1992 and has continued to serve in that capacity until his retirement on April 14th of this year. He ran unopposed in 1988, 1994 and 2000 to be returned to his place on the bench. During his tenure Judge Borrello presided over three one-man grand juries and numerous criminal and civil cases.

In addition to his work on the bench, Judge Borrello is also active with the Saginaw County Crime Prevention Council and the American Kennel Club, where he also serves as a show judge. Judge Borrello and his wife Audre have passed on their work ethic to their three sons: Stephen, an appellate court judge; Andre, a Saginaw attorney; and Murray, a professor at Alma College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the career of a hardworking, dedicated public servant, Leopold Borrello. His intelligence, common sense, and consideration for the public welfare have earned the well deserved respect of his fellow jurists and the esteem of the Saginaw community.

#### RECOGNIZING COLE S. KLAUWUH FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cole S. Klawuhn, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 94, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cole has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cole has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cole S. Klawuhn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRIBUTE TO CONSULAR CORPS ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia.

In celebration of 44 years of promoting international understanding, I extend congratulations to the first Consular Corps in the United States, the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia.

With the founding of the Corps, now one of the largest diplomatic associations in the Nation, a model was created that allows us to

reach beyond geographic boundaries to strengthen international relations.

Thirty-seven countries are represented in the Philadelphia Association and as a result there are increased opportunities for business, educational and diplomatic partnerships.

The Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia has also provided humanitarian aid. Its members aided relief efforts for Asian and African victims of the tsunami disaster and survivors of civil war.

On the educational front, the organization has developed innovative cultural exchange programs, including partnerships with the World Affairs Council, the International Visitors' Council and the Bodine High School for International Affairs. As a result of these outreach programs, many area young people now see themselves as world citizens with a greater appreciation for cultural and racial diversity.

Mr. Speaker, the Consular Corps of Philadelphia helps us understand that by reaching beyond our geographic boundaries, there is hope that we can learn to share more fairly in the world's bounty and it is for these reasons that I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor them.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF MID-MICHIGAN

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan as it celebrates its 75th anniversary of employing persons with disabilities. Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan will celebrate this milestone at a party on May 23 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Reverend John E. Martin, pastor of the Oak Park Methodist Church, brought Goodwill Industries to the Flint area in April 1931. Originally started as a program to assist immigrants, Goodwill Industries soon became a service for persons with disabilities. The focus shifted to employment, training and rehabilitation. The emphasis is on giving all persons with disabilities the dignity that comes from work and economic self-sufficiency.

In the 1950s Goodwill Industries became a subcontractor for General Motors and other area businesses. The expanded services and training mandated a need for additional space, and through the generosity of C.S. Mott, Goodwill Industries was able to move to its present location. In 1986 the name was changed to Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan to reflect the organization's expansion into the areas surrounding Flint.

Currently serving clients in six Michigan counties, operating 11 retail stores, a business services unit and employing over 200 workers, Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan offers rehabilitation programs designed to enhance interpersonal relationships, leadership development, vocational training and computer skills. They provide services to over 500 individuals while maintaining a high level of competence, customer satisfaction and effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan as it

celebrates 75 years providing efficient, professional assistance to persons with disabilities and the communities of Mid-Michigan. They are to be commended for their dedication to teaching every segment of our society the satisfaction that comes from succeeding in the workplace.

#### RECOGNIZING DANIEL JAMES GREEN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel James Green, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. He is currently serving as the Senior Patrol Leader, is a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and is a Member of the Order of the Arrow. For his Eagle Scout Project, Daniel chose to build bookcases for four classrooms for Liberty Junior High School. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel James Green for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARK SCHOENROCK

**HON. TOM OSBORNE**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, Lt. Col. Mark Schoenrock faithfully served as a U.S. Army officer for 28 years in positions of increasing responsibility. His performance of his duties and contributions to the United States of America over the course of his career were truly outstanding. He was recognized with two awards of the Legion of Merit, seven awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal, among other awards.

He was commissioned an officer in the U.S. Army on May 13, 1978, in Lincoln, Nebraska, upon graduation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps, ROTC. He was a four-year Army ROTC scholarship winner, graduated from the University with distinction, and was an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate. He completed the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee, Virginia, with honors and was assigned as an Assistant Brigade Logistics Officer, Platoon Leader, and Battalion Logistics Officer with the 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While assigned to the Tropic Lightning

Division, Lt. Col. Schoenrock deployed with his unit three times to the Republic of Korea. He was consistently cited as being an outstanding young officer. The areas for which he was responsible excelled during numerous external inspections. His dining facility won the Connelly Award as being among the best in the Army.

Following his 3 years in Hawaii, Lt. Col. Schoenrock completed the Quartermaster Officer Advanced Course at Fort Lee, Virginia, again graduating with honors. He was selected as the Outstanding Logistician for the course. He was subsequently assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, and the First Infantry Division, Big Red One, where he served as a company commander and maneuver brigade logistics officer. He was consistently rated among the top officers in the entire brigade. He led the ROTC Third Region advanced camp transportation mission. In this effort, his soldiers drove over 1,000 missions covering over 170,000 miles flawlessly. As the First Brigade logistics officer, he deployed twice to the Federal Republic of Germany in support of Operation Reforger. He was responsible for the entire logistical support (supply, maintenance and transportation) of 2,500 soldiers and 298 tracked vehicles. During Reforger, he ensured the brigade's safe and efficient transport from Kansas to Germany and return. He also deployed five times to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California in his capacity as a company commander and maneuver brigade logistics officer. As a company commander, he was cited as always coming through in a first class, professional manner. As the brigade logistics officer, he was cited by the brigade commander for his mature judgment, poise under stress, technical competence, positive nature, willingness to learn, great energy and dedication to excellence.

Upon the completion of his 4-year tour at Fort Riley, Lt. Col. Schoenrock was selected to represent the Army in the highly competitive Training With Industry (TWI) program. He served as the Army's first representative with the General Motors Corporation, Allison Gas Turbine Division. He played an instrumental role in the development of the T-800 engine, which was the engine in the Army's Comanche helicopter. General Motors cited him as a credit to the U.S. Army.

Following TWI, Lt. Col. Schoenrock served as a Contracting Officer and Contracting Section Chief in St. Louis, Missouri, responsible for the development and acquisition of petroleum logistics and water logistics. He was responsible for the acquisition of many end items that served our soldiers during Operation Desert Storm and that were vital to the United States' ultimate victory in the deserts of southwest Asia. He was cited by the Contracting Director as the best military section chief in the entire directorate. He then was selected to attend the Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) in resident status at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Following CGSC graduation, Lt. Col. Schoenrock was selected to be the principal acquisition advisor to the Inspector General of the Army in Washington. In this role, he advised and assisted the Inspector General with some of the Army's most sensitive acquisition programs and other matters. He routinely was responsible for matters of national importance and interest. He was cited as consistently demonstrating those traits that are expected

from the Army's best officers. He then was selected to serve as an executive officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition). He served as a key facilitator in preparing the Army leadership for senior level Secretary of Defense and Congressional reviews for programs that were valued in excess of \$30 billion. He excelled in managing all administration, logistics support, security and automation to support 37 senior civilian and military personnel. His senior executive service supervisor called him the best officer with whom he had ever served.

He then was selected to serve as a liaison with the U.S. Congress. Lt. Col. Schoenrock worked directly with the Army leadership and with Members of Congress and their staffs in resolving matters of the utmost national sensitivity and urgency. He ensured that programs that total billions of dollars were wisely and prudently executed to provide maximum benefit to the Army and to the communities that are closely related to the Army. He excelled as the principal congressional coordinator for the prime vendor support initiative. This is the lead Army program in which the Army is considering the outsourcing of the entire wholesale logistics of a principal major weapons system, with cost savings of \$1.8 billion. He flawlessly announced nearly 1,000 contract actions, each valued in excess of \$5 million, to over 3,500 Members of Congress, totaling \$22.5 billion. He was an influential and visible spokesman on Capitol Hill.

In his last assignment, Lt. Col. Schoenrock excelled as the Inspector General for the State of Colorado. He advised and assisted the State of Colorado military leadership in the conduct of all military functions for 5,000 soldiers and airmen. He trained the Republic of Slovenia Defense Inspectorate in the conduct of inspector general functions as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, Partnership for Peace Program. He also established the effort to develop the legislative liaison function between the Slovene Minister of Defense and the Slovene Parliament. His efforts with Slovenia went far towards helping this newly-emerging democracy develop the foundation for an enduring form of democratic government and to attain NATO membership. He excelled as a member of Governor Owens' state advocate council responsible for military and veterans issues. He contributed to significant increases in the wartime readiness of the Colorado National Guard and its ability to execute a myriad of missions in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Lt. Col. Schoenrock's efforts contributed immeasurably to the Colorado National Guard's soldier welfare, readiness and public image.

As a career Army officer, husband and father, and dedicated citizen, Mark Schoenrock exemplifies what is good and right about America. His life is a credit to his family, to his home state of Nebraska, to the U.S. Army, and to his generation. His 28 years of service as a U.S. Army officer in increasingly demanding positions of trust and responsibility rising from company level to the Department of the Army staff and service with the U.S. Congress, culminating in 8 years as the Colorado Inspector General, significantly contributed to the security and freedom of the United States

of America. His career achievements influenced the lives of thousands and left a legacy of freedom that will be built upon for generations to come. His career was a credit to his generation of Americans who have served the United States of America.

#### REMEMBERING BUNKY HUGGINS

#### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Mississippi legislature said good-bye to a long time friend and public servant. State Senator Robert Gene Huggins—"Bunky" to everyone who knew him—passed away Wednesday in Jackson, Mississippi, after a long battle with cancer.

Bunky was born in Carrollton, Mississippi on November 12, 1938. He graduated from Greenwood High School and attended the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi College. A farmer and businessman, he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1971 and reelected for two more terms before moving to the Senate in 1984 where he served for 22 years. Most recently he was chairman of the Senate Corrections Committee and had previously served as chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the Public Health Committee.

His funeral will be at his home church, St. John's Methodist Church in Greenwood.

Mr. Speaker, our prayers are with Bunky's family: his wife, Gerry and his two children and four grandchildren. He will be remembered as a hard worker and a dedicated public servant with a love for Mississippi and his Delta home. His humor and wit and tireless dedication to public service will be remembered by colleagues and constituents for years to come. I hope Congress joins me today in remembering this honored public official.

#### RECOGNIZING ORMER ROGERS, JR.

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ormer Rogers, Jr., the District Manager for the Mid America District of the United States Postal Service. Ormer is retiring after 37 years in the United States Postal Service. He has served the Postal Service with dignity and respect throughout his career.

Ormer began his career in the Postal Service in 1969 as a letter carrier in Dallas, Texas. Over the years he has held management positions in Texas, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Tennessee, Illinois, and Missouri. As the current District Manager for the Mid America District he is responsible for providing postal services to more than 1.5 million customers in Missouri and Kansas. He manages over 13,000 employees in 710 post offices and six mail processing plants. Ormer has a reputation of treating people with dignity and respect, managing

by the philosophy of, treat others how you wish to be treated.

Ormer has always been committed to service. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Dallas Baptist University and a Master's Degree in business administration from Abilene Christian University in Dallas, Texas. He also served as a paratrooper in the United States Army with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He has just recently completed serving two terms as Chairman of the Kansas City Federal Executive Board. He also serves on the board of the Heart of America United Way, the board of Visitors of Park University and is president of the Heart America Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Ormer Rogers, Jr. His commitment to service and dedication to the United States Postal Service are greatly appreciated. He will certainly be missed and I would like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication over the years. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

#### TRIBUTE TO MOTHER'S DAY

#### HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, the world will celebrate a tradition born in Greece and celebrated around the world, Mother's Day.

I know that my fellow mothers in this House look forward to a special day with family. I know that my male colleagues had better be planning a special time with their wives and mothers, as well.

The birth of a child is a magical experience that changes a parent's life forever. Joy, laughter, some tears, and always love, are just part of the emotional rollercoaster ride we call parenthood.

My little girl was recently married and one day, God willing, will enjoy the experience that I wouldn't trade for a subcommittee gavel on the Appropriations Committee.

But giving birth in large parts of the world is very dangerous, even deadly. In some parts of the developing world, 1 of every 10 mothers giving birth gives her life in the process. Equally disturbing, 3 million brand new babies die in the first week of life due to inadequate healthcare.

On this Mothers Day, let us celebrate our mothers. We can hardly repay them, but we can try at least for one day. But let us also pause to appreciate the struggle mothers thousands of miles away in places we will never visit. Let us rededicate ourselves to reach out to every human hand, no matter how small or how frail.

On Sunday, please join me in honoring your mother and mothers everywhere across this small planet.

ENCOURAGING ALL ELIGIBLE MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES TO REVIEW AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ENROLLMENT IN A MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVAN PEARCE**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the Gentlewoman from Connecticut for bringing this resolution forward today. In my district, almost 70,000 Medicare beneficiaries have obtained prescription drug coverage, which constitutes 72 percent of the number of Medicare beneficiaries who live there.

My staff and I are proud to have contributed to this achievement. We have held numerous town hall meetings across Southern New Mexico to help seniors sign up for this critical new benefit. We have also trained others to provide this assistance—creating a multiplier effect regarding the amount of help that is available to our seniors. And we continue to urge seniors to contact our offices if they need help as the May 15 deadline approaches.

Every senior should immediately check their enrollment status in order to ensure they are enrolled in the Medicare Part D benefit. I also encourage everyone who has a parent or grandparent who is eligible for Medicare to call them and check their status. Seniors must sign up before May 15 to receive the best benefits at the lowest cost.

The phone numbers and addresses for my district offices are listed on my website at [www.pearce.house.gov](http://www.pearce.house.gov). Several additional resources also exist that can assist New Mexicans in choosing and enrolling in a plan. Medicare beneficiaries and their family members with questions about Medicare drug coverage can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). They can also obtain help from local community organizations, pharmacists, senior centers, area agencies on aging and groups like AARP.

No senior should go another day without this coverage and we in Congress have a responsibility to stand with them and help them get that coverage today.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY B. ROE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey B. Roe. After 12 years by my side, Jeff recently retired as my Chief of Staff. Since meeting him in 1994, while I was serving in the Missouri State House of Representatives, Jeff and I have maintained a unique bond; he has been there throughout my entire political career, offering guidance and expertise.

Jeff and I began working together in 1994, when he was an intern and I was a State Representative pursuing a position in the State Senate. We won that election, and Jeff soon

became an instrumental member of my staff. Over the next six years, he came in early and stayed late, the consummate professional. When I made the decision to seek the 6th Congressional District seat in the 2000, Jeff was again by my side. Those late nights and tireless hours on the road paid off, and Jeff followed me to Washington, DC, and created an office structure that we still use today. Jeff has held every job in each of my offices and has used that experience to help develop outstanding employees that leave our office more polished and determined than when they enter. Jeff has always had a love of government and politics. He has a unique perspective on the way that the world works. His tireless work ethic has always been something that has set him apart, and he was even recognized as one of Kansas City's 40 most influential leaders under the age of 40, in *Ingram's Magazine* 2003 honors. Throughout his distinguished career in politics, he has helped countless people in their pursuit of public office.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jeffrey B. Roe. His commitment to public service and the professional manner with which he has crafted my office will be missed. I would respectfully like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication over the years. Though he is no longer a member of my staff, I am comforted to know that, because of his hard work, I have the honor of representing him in the United States Congress.

ENCOURAGING ALL ELIGIBLE MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES TO REVIEW AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ENROLLMENT IN A MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are millions of Americans benefiting from the new Part D Drug Program.

Many people overlook that fact, though. I'm pretty tired of hearing the same old story from nay-sayers . . . that people could get their drugs cheaper, "If only the Government had the ability to negotiate lower prices."

I'll tell you what—That's just not true. People love to tout the V.A. system as an example of successful government negotiation.

But did you know that only 13 of the top 33 prescribed drugs for seniors are on the V.A. formulary?

Heck, a negotiated price doesn't help you much if you can't get the drug you need.

For years, P.B.M.'s have been negotiating prices for millions of Americans—and now they are getting the job done for medicare beneficiaries.

Some plans are able to offer prices lower than Internet wholesalers, lower than Canadian prices.

The beneficiaries, the States, and the taxpayers are all benefiting from these lower prices.

I encourage a yes vote on the resolution and thank the gentlelady from Connecticut for her tireless—and persistent—efforts on this issue.

HONORING LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER OSBALDO "OZZIE" RAMOS

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Osbaldo "Ozzie" Ramos for being named a 2006 "TOP COP" by the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO).

The TOP COP is given annually by NAPO to pay tribute to outstanding law enforcement officers whose actions have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Officer Ozzie Ramos was nominated by his fellow Los Angeles Police Department Officers for his heroism in the face of grave danger last spring. On March 10, 2005, Officer Ramos and three fellow LAPD officers brought down two dangerous gunmen. That day the two suspects loaded a SUV with 500 rounds of ammunition and a rifle and lured officers into a chase. Several police cars joined the pursuit, including Officer Ozzie Ramos and his partner Officer Trevor Jackson, when suddenly the suspects opened the door of the van and began firing shots at the police cars.

While Officer Ramos drove the patrol car, Officer Jackson returned the suspects' fire using his shotgun. When Officer Jackson ran out of ammunition, Officer Ramos courageously maintained their position in proximity to the SUV while simultaneously pulling out his weapon and firing a full magazine at the suspects.

The Officers' fire caused the SUV to crash in a parking lot, but the suspects continued firing at Officer Ozzie Ramos and his comrades. Officer Ramos exited his vehicle and while firing, crossed an unprotected area to gain a better shot and more accurately relay information on the suspects' position. As a result of Officer Ramos' information, another officer fired through the door of the vehicle and ended the standoff.

Officer Ramos' heroism that day is a reflection of his distinguished career in law enforcement. A 12-year veteran, Officer Ramos graduated from the Police Academy at the young age of 22. Upon graduation Officer Ramos was assigned to the 77th Street Patrol Division as a probationary officer. After completing probation, Officer Ramos served one year in the Central Traffic Division as a Collision Investigator before joining the Gang Enforcement Unit. He was certified as a gang expert and promoted to the ranks of Police Officer III and Assistant Squad Leader in the Gang Unit. After serving a tour in the Gang Unit, Officer Ramos continued his work as the Assistant Squad Leader in the Special Enforcement Unit. Presently Officer Ramos is a Field Training Officer in the 77th Street Patrol Division and he has received thirty-one Commendations for various acts, works, and accomplishments since 1998.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Officer Ozzie

Ramos for being honored with the TOP COP award for 2006. He is an exemplary police officer whose dedicated and fearless service is keeping the people of southern California safe.

#### RECOGNIZING BRITTNEY LOCH

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brittney Loch of Maryville, Missouri. Over the past few months, Brittney has served as my office intern. She has handled her responsibilities with class and enthusiasm. Her efforts to represent my office have been commended by both my staff and our constituents.

As a student at Drake University, Brittney has been pursuing a degree in Political Science and came to Washington, DC through the Washington Semester Program to study Public Law. Her ambition and interest in politics have been evident since the first time I met her years ago. Her commitment to public service and her enthusiasm in helping the people of the 6th District is something to be admired.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Brittney Loch. She has been great to have in the office and her efforts are much appreciated. I have no doubt that her dreams of working in Congress will be fulfilled. She will certainly be missed and I would like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking her for all of her hard work and dedication. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEVON HELM AND THE DECLARATION OF LEVON HELM DAY IN WOODSTOCK, NEW YORK

##### HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable and talented man, a man who I am proud to call my friend, Mr. Levon Helm.

Levon once said of the music of Bill Monroe and His Blue Grass Boys, "it really tattooed my brain." That's how I feel about Levon's music, which I have had the pleasure of enjoying since the late 1960s, when he recorded "Music from Big Pink" in West Saugerties, New York.

Levon Helm was born on May 26, 1940 in Elaine, Arkansas. From an early age, Levon had a musical gift. He performed all over Arkansas with his sister Linda, entertaining crowds with a homemade string bass, harmonica and guitar. As a teenager he formed his own band, The Jungle Bush Beaters, and honed his musical gift by watching entertainers such as Johnny Cash, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, and a young Elvis Presley.

After The Jungle Bush Beaters, Levon joined The Hawks, which recorded such hits as "Forty Days" and "Mary Lou." The Hawks sold 750,000 copies of their record and appeared on Dick Clark's American Bandstand.

After splitting with The Hawks' founder, Ronnie Hawkins, Levon and his band mates signed on as Bob Dylan's backup band, and followed Dylan to West Saugerties, New York, where they took up residence in a pink house, wrote and rehearsed. The group became known simply as The Band, and the outcome of that period was one of the most important albums of the 20th century, "Music from Big Pink." It was the album that introduced Levon Helm to America, and it introduced me to their amazing sound.

Luckily for Levon, he didn't put his roots down in the Hudson Valley just yet. While working in Los Angeles in 1974, he met the lovely Sandra Dodd who would become his wife seven years later. I am happy to know her and call her a friend.

The Band continued to prosper in the early 1970s and in 1975, the barn and studio that Levon built in Woodstock was complete. Unfortunately it was just a year later that we said goodbye to The Band, but it would not be goodbye for Levon Helm.

Over the next seven years, Levon continued pursuing his own musical career with cutting-edge albums like "The RCO All-Stars," the self-titled "Levon Helm" and "American Son." Then in 1984, much to their fans' delight, The Band reunited, performing together and recording three more albums.

In 1996, Levon was diagnosed with throat cancer, and we all feared we would never hear his voice again, but he miraculously recovered, and I, and so many others, still enjoy Levon's music at the Midnight Rambles he holds in his studio in Woodstock.

For the past 30 years, Levon has been much more than our famous neighbor in Woodstock. He has, quietly and unobtrusively, been a very generous and committed member of our community. He has worked hard for and supported cancer centers, local little leagues, volunteer firefighters, members of the armed forces and school music programs.

It is because of this great man, and the great music he produces that the Village of Woodstock, New York, has declared May 20 as Levon Helm Day. It continues to be an honor and a great pleasure for so many of us in New York and across America to bear witness to the incredible career and life of this very strong, extremely talented and generous man. I look forward to many more Midnight Rambles.

#### IN HONOR OF BLAIR L. SADLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

##### HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Blair L. Sadler, who has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Children's Hospital and Health Center of San Diego since 1980. Mr. Sadler celebrates his retirement after more than a quarter of a century of service in the field of pediatric healthcare.

A native of New York City, Blair graduated from Amherst College with a bachelor's degree in economics and received his Juris Doc-

torate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He served as a law clerk with the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and as a medical-legal specialist for the National Institutes of Health. He was an Assistant Professor at Yale University for 3 years and served for 4 years as Assistant Vice President at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, New Jersey. Prior to his appointment at Children's Hospital, Blair served as Vice President and Director of the hospital and clinics at Scripps Clinical and Research Foundation for 3 years.

Before coming to California, Blair had already established a national and international reputation in several fields, including organ transplantation, physician assistant programs, and emergency medical care and trauma services. While at the National Institutes of Health, with his physician twin brother, he was very involved in writing a model organ donation law that was adopted in all 50 states and published leading articles on transplantation and the law. While on the Yale University Medical School faculty, he co-authored two books *The Physician's Assistant—Today and Tomorrow* and *Emergency Medical Care: The Neglected Public Service*, which were widely utilized. At the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, he designed and led their first national competitive grants program in regional emergency medical communication systems that became a model for the Foundation's work.

His many accomplishments show a deep commitment to improving healthcare. He has skillfully integrated quantitative indicators along with qualitative elements to fashion a truly unique healing experience for the patients at Children's Hospitals.

Under his leadership, Children's has become one of the leading pediatric hospitals in America and was the country's first children's hospital to receive the prestigious Ernest A. Codman Award in recognition for its pioneering work in quality of care. Children's is the major pediatric partner of the entire Sharp and Scripps health care systems and, in 2001, signed a historic agreement combining the UCSD pediatric programs with Children's.

Blair's leadership has enabled Children's to grow and develop as one of the Nation's best pediatric hospitals and, during his tenure, Children's has provided care for more than a million children in the San Diego region since 1980. Children's has added many nationally recognized programs and services and has developed strong collaborative relationships with virtually every healthcare provider in San Diego. While Blair has been at the helm, the hospital has planned and constructed more than 200,000 square feet of facilities and he has championed a healing environment for Children's.

Thanks to Blair's vision, Children's is not just a conglomeration of buildings; it represents a model healing environment for kids and their families. In 1999, Children's built the first healing garden in an American children's hospital and there are now four gardens on its campus. In 2001, in partnership with the non-profit Society for the Arts in Healthcare, he created and personally funded the Blair L. Sadler Healing Arts Award program that annually recognizes professional and student artists who have made measurable contributions to improved health care through the arts.

On behalf of the people of San Diego, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation

for Blair's commitment and my best wishes for his retirement. I wish him and his family the very best in their new endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING ERIC S. GROOMS  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric S. Grooms, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eric has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric S. Grooms for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**EDS AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness to and pay tribute to those affected by Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, EDS.

The problems present in EDS include changes in the physical properties of skin, joints, blood vessels, and other tissues such as ligaments and tendons. EDS is a rare disorder, occurring in approximately 1 in 5,000 people; however, 90 percent of individuals who have EDS remain undiagnosed. The various forms of EDS are characterized by abnormalities in the chemical structure of the body's connective tissues resulting in some degree of joint looseness, fragile small blood vessels, and abnormal scar formation and wound healing. Some forms of EDS can present problems with the spine, including curved spine; the eyes; and weak internal organs, including the uterus, intestines, and large blood vessels.

There is no cure for this condition, although researchers believe that specific research on EDS would not only benefit EDS patients with diagnostic tools and treatment, but would also benefit understanding of other connective tissue related diseases. Scientific researchers have made some significant advances in recent years in trying to understand this condition, but many scientific challenges still remain.

Mr. Speaker, the Ehlers-Danlos National Foundation, a national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to controlling the effects of EDS as well as creating a support system for those diagnosed with this condition and their families, has designated May EDS Awareness Month. The goal of this effort is to educate the public about the nature and effects of EDS.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to become familiar with this disease and join us in recognizing the importance of an accurate diagnosis of EDS to ensure appropriate treatment and educational outreach. EDS Awareness Month gives all of us an opportunity to learn more about the condition. It will help us better understand the impact that EDS can have on people living with the disorder, as well as recognize the importance of early diagnosis and proper treatment. In short, we must enhance public awareness of this very misunderstood and often misdiagnosed disease.

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4297,  
TAX INCREASE PREVENTION  
AND RECONCILIATION ACT OF  
2005**

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4297. This legislation would give big benefits to millionaires, billionaires and giant corporations while the average American suffers under record high energy costs and again gets stuck with the bill.

Mr. Speaker, we should not increase the burden on our children and our grandchildren with this administration's record deficits just to make another 70 billion dollar gift that will line the pockets of the wealthiest few. Let's not extend tax rates that would encourage oil company executives to continue gouging record profits from every hard working American.

Mr. Speaker, we need to rethink our priorities. Instead of another 70 billion dollars for the super rich, why not provide health care for millions of children, provide housing for the neglected victims of Katrina or improve the education of the countless students that this administration has left so far behind? Is this Republican Congress so busy returning profits to the wealthy, that it has forgotten the families who have done all the hard work?

I encourage members to remember the American families that are the back bone of our nation and our economy and vote "no" on this bill.

**RECOGNIZING JACOB R. HARRINGTON  
FOR ACHIEVING THE  
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob R. Harrington, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob R. Harrington for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING JAN STOHR UPON HER  
RETIREMENT**

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a distinguished woman who has tirelessly served the Sacramento area for many years. Jan Stohr will soon be retiring from the Nonprofit Resource Center as its Executive Director. As her colleagues, friends and family gather to celebrate her retirement, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

When she steps down, Jan will leave behind a long list of accomplishments and a career devoted to helping others. She has been the driving force behind the creation of multiple Sacramento based nonprofits that continue to thrive decades after their founding.

In 1976, as a member of the Junior League, she initiated the establishment of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento, CAPC, and a few years later was instrumental in the development of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. Due to the successful efforts and outreach of CAPC, thousands of children have been spared from being victims of abuse; and since its founding, the Sacramento Region Community Foundation has given out 44 million dollars in grants.

The cornerstone of Jan's work in Sacramento, however, has been her longtime commitment to the Nonprofit Resource Center. The Center began in 1988 with Jan's help and has since blossomed into the place where nonprofits can turn to for assistance in writing grant proposals, securing funds and developing solid management practices. She has served as the Center's Executive Director since its establishment in 1988. Located in downtown Sacramento, the center now assists nonprofits throughout northern California.

Additionally, Jan has given her time by serving on the board of directors for numerous non-profits in the Sacramento area, including the Community Services Planning Council, the United Way, and the Mountain Valley Chapter of the American Leadership Forum. She also seen by many as a leader in the nonprofit field and has been active with the California Association of Non profits' Nonprofit Policy Council, UC Davis's Community Development Graduate Group and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Through her work, Jan has been awarded with numerous recognitions, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Outstanding Fundraising Executive Award and the United Way's Distinguished Service Award. Many more awards and accolades will certainly follow as she transitions into retirement.

Mr. Speaker, as Jan Stohr enters retirement, I am truly honored to pay tribute to one of my dear friends and one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Jan and her husband Phil continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.



THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FOUNDING OF THE MOSCOW HEL-  
SINKI GROUP**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Helsinki Commission, I note that tomorrow marks one of the major events in the struggle for human rights around the globe. Thirty years ago a courageous band of human rights defenders in the Soviet Union founded the "Moscow Helsinki Group," dedicated to monitoring Soviet compliance with the Helsinki Final Act, an historic agreement containing important provisions on human rights.

When General Secretary Brezhnev signed the Helsinki Final Act, or the Helsinki Accords, on August 1, 1975 on behalf of the USSR, Soviet officials believed that they had gained an important foreign policy victory. Indeed, there were some provisions that Soviet diplomats had sought assiduously during the negotiations among the thirty-five nations of Europe and the United States and Canada. However, the West, for its part, had insisted on certain provisions in the area of human rights and humanitarian affairs, including the right of citizens "to know their rights and to act upon them."

With this commitment in mind, Professor Yuri Orlov, a Soviet physicist who had been involved in the defense of human rights in the Soviet Union previously, called upon several of his similarly-minded colleagues to join together in an organization to press publicly for implementation of the Helsinki Accords in their country.

Eleven brave individuals answered the call, and on May 12, 1976, at a press conference called by famed human rights campaigner and peace activist Dr. Andrei Sakharov, the creation of the "Public Group to Assist in the Implementation of the Helsinki Final Act," or as it became later known, the "Moscow Helsinki Group" was announced.

The Moscow Helsinki Group committed itself to collecting information about implementation of the Helsinki Accords in the Soviet Union and publishing reports on their findings. During the first six years of its activity, they produced almost two hundred specific reports, as well as other announcements and appeals. More activists joined with the passing months. Similar Helsinki monitoring groups were established elsewhere in the USSR, including in Ukraine, Lithuania, Georgia and Armenia. Other groups focused on specific human rights issues such as psychiatric abuse or religious liberty joined the movement. The Moscow Group became an important source of information for individuals and groups seeking assistance in the area of human rights.

Naturally, the Soviet leadership rejected such "assistance" and undertook to suppress the Moscow Helsinki Group. Members were fired from their jobs, "persuaded" to emigrate, castigated in the press, and subjected to KGB searches and interrogations. When such reprisals proved mostly ineffective, members were charged with political crimes and given lengthy sentences in labor camps of the Soviet Gulag, usually with an additional term of

"internal exile," forced resettlement, typically somewhere in Siberia or the Soviet Far East.

Ten years after the founding of the Moscow Helsinki Group, 14 members had been sentenced to a total of 69 years in labor camp or prison, and 50 years internal exile. Anatoly Marchenko, a founding member and veteran dissident, died during a hunger strike at Chistopol Prison in December 1986. By 1982, the Moscow Helsinki Group had been forced to suspend its activities in the face of intense KGB repression.

But while Moscow had rid itself of some troublesome dissidents, the spirit of Helsinki was not so easily quashed. Ludmilla Alekseyeva, an exiled member of the group, testified in the U.S. Congress in October 1985 that "for victims of human rights abuses in the Eastern bloc, Helsinki remains the main source of hope . . . and a rallying point in their struggle for freedom and peace." Just a little over 4 years after she spoke those words, the Berlin Wall fell.

The Moscow Helsinki Group was re-established in 1989. Reinvigorated through the work of new and veteran members, it is one of the most respected human rights organizations in the Russian Federation today. Alexeyeva, who returned to Russia in the early 1990s, following the demise of the Soviet Union, serves as chair of the group.

Mr. Speaker, we would do well to heed the wise words of Andrei Sakharov when he noted, "The whole point of the Helsinki Accords is mutual monitoring, not mutual evasion of difficult problems." A key to the ultimate success of the Helsinki Process has been the involvement of civil society—courageous human rights defenders like those who established the Moscow Group—willing to speak out on behalf of others. I remain deeply concerned over human rights trends in Russia, especially the adoption of regressive laws affecting fundamental human rights and freedoms.

I join my colleagues on the Helsinki Commission in congratulating the Moscow Helsinki Group on the occasion of its 30th anniversary of dedicated service in the defense of fundamental freedoms and liberty.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS J. PARK  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicholas J. Park, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nicholas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nicholas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nicholas J. Park for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CALI-  
FORNIA STATE SENATOR ED  
DAVIS**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in sadness today to honor the memory of Ed Davis, a former California State Senator and Los Angeles Chief of Police. He was a remarkable man who was a monumental presence on the Los Angeles and California political scene. Senator Davis passed away on April 22, 2006 in San Luis Obispo, CA at the age of 89.

Born Edward Michael Davis on November 15, 1916 in Los Angeles, he graduated from John C. Fremont High School and enlisted in the United States Navy where he became a decorated officer. He later received his Masters in Public Administration from USC. Always a proud alumnus, he often sported a maroon blazer and gold pants, USC's famous colors, on the State Senate floor.

Joining the Los Angeles Police Department in 1940, Ed first walked a beat in downtown Los Angeles with the late Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley. Rising up through the ranks, he was a director of the police and fire union and later a trusted top aide to legendary Chief William Parker. Ed served as Los Angeles Chief of Police from 1969 until 1978 where he was known as a popular firebrand who pushed law and order during times of turbulence.

Chief Davis proved popular with not only with the people of Los Angeles, but also with weary Americans who were looking for tough leadership during uncertain times. During the same period, his officers' morale was at an all-time high. He became a national figure as a tough law and order proponent quelling student protests during the Vietnam War, opposing the Black Panthers, and taking a strident stance against the epidemic of hijacking in the early 1970's.

In 1974, the entire nation watched as the Chief's force had a climatic shootout with the Symbionese Liberation Army who had kidnapped heiress Patty Hearst. Several leaders of the gang died in a fiery blaze at the conclusion of the confrontation.

Chief Davis implemented historic reforms at the LAPD and left a legacy of influence in law enforcement. His innovations include creating the Neighborhood Watch concept to bring residents together, and instituting community policing. While crime rose by 55 percent across the Nation during his tenure as Chief, crime actually decreased by 1 percent in Los Angeles. His influence still exists in the LAPD, and programs that the Chief invented are at the heart of every police organization worldwide. The City of Los Angeles honored him by naming the newest and most elaborate of the three LAPD training centers "The Ed Davis Emergency Vehicle Operations Center & Tactics/Firearms Training Center" in 1998.

A respected member of the academic community, Chief Davis lecturing at USC and Cal State Los Angeles as an adjunct professor of police administration and management for 18 years. He was the author of Staff One, a leading police management textbook.

Prior to his appointment as Chief, he served for many years as a law enforcement advocate working with the California Legislature in



Sacramento. Among his many outstanding contributions is the landmark Peace Officer's Standards and Training Act of 1959, which set minimum police standards for California.

After retiring as Police Chief in 1978, he set his sights on the California Governor's mansion. Running in the Republican gubernatorial primary, the Chief came in second to Attorney General Evelle Younger in a four-man race, which included State Senator Ken Maddy and San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson.

Chief Davis returned to the political arena in 1980 after winning the State Senate election for the 19th Senate District. He represented Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, the North San Fernando Valley and the Santa Clarita Valley.

Overwhelmingly re-elected to a second Senate term in 1984, Senator Davis again set his sights on higher office. He entered the 1986 U.S. Senate race against longtime incumbent Alan Cranston. His slogan, "One Tough Cop, and One Great Senator," recalled his glory days as Chief.

The Republican race was upended when one of Senator Davis' opponents was indicted for allegedly offering him \$100,000 if he dropped out of the race. The courts ultimately threw out the indictment, but the scuffle derailed the Senator's campaign and helped Congressman Ed Zschau win the nomination.

Davis turned his energy and attention back to Sacramento, winning praise as a reasoned Vice-Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Often called central casting's choice as a senator, the white-haired gentleman was easily reelected to a third term to the State Senate in 1988.

Known by his friends as a man of great charm and graciousness, Senator Davis celebrated 50 years of public service with a gala dinner in 1991. Highlights of the evening included recorded tributes from comedian Bob Hope and former Presidents Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon. Looking forward to a peaceful retirement, Senator Davis and his wife, Bobbie, moved north to Morro Bay, California in 1992.

Senator Davis is survived by his wife, Bobbie, his children Michael Davis, Christine Coey and Mary Ellen Burde and step-children Fred, Michael, and Kylvie as well as several beloved grandchildren.

#### HONORING ROBERT ROGERS

#### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Robert Rogers upon his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Educational Employees Credit Union, after almost 30 years of service in the credit union industry.

His retirement concludes a phenomenal career in the credit union business, starting as a Texas State Examiner in 1977. Rogers later held executive-level positions at Hughes Employees Credit Union, Houston Area Teacher's Credit Union, and the University of Arkansas Credit Union. He also served as Deputy Commissioner for the State of Texas in 1988 and was named Commissioner three years later. In 1995 Rogers moved to Fort Worth to act as President and CEO of EECU.

Rogers has been an active leader with many credit-union related affiliates on the local, state, and national level. He is a former Director for the National Association of Community Credit Unions, and is on the Board of Directors for Town North Bank. Other noteworthy accomplishments include founding the Texas Credit Union Legislative Coalition, and being appointed to the Texas Credit Union League's Board of Trustees.

Rogers has been an advocate for credit unions and members throughout his career. He has always sought to provide vital financial services for the underserved and ensured that the voices of credit unions and their members were heard in the political arena. I thank him for his years of dedication to Texas families. I wish him well in his retirement; his presence will truly be missed.

#### RECOGNIZING BENJAMIN F. SANDERSON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin F. Sanderson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin F. Sanderson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

#### HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, Sunday is Mother's Day. In honor of all of our Mothers, I rise today to urge all my colleagues to push for passage of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act (H.R. 2231) this year.

One out of eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer at some point in her lifetime. It afflicts our mothers, our daughters, our sisters, our wives. It currently afflicts three million women—including one million women who do not yet know they have breast cancer. In New York alone, there is expected to be 14,400 new cases in 2006 and over 2,700 deaths due to breast cancer.

The human toll of this disease is staggering. All women are at risk of getting breast cancer. In some way, breast cancer will directly or indirectly affect you or someone you know. Breast cancer takes a life every 14 minutes. Another woman will receive a life altering diagnosis of breast cancer every 3 minutes.

Passing the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act would help get to the bottom of what causes breast cancer and how to prevent it.

H.R. 2231 authorizes \$30 million a year for five years to establish these multi-institutional, multidisciplinary centers. The centers would include institutions with different areas of expertise working together to look at different aspects of the same issue.

This bill creates a new mechanism for environmental health research, and provide a unique process by which up to 8 research centers are developed to study environmental factors and their impact on breast cancer. Modeled after the DOD Breast Cancer Research Program, which has been so successful, it would include consumer advocates in the peer review and programmatic review process.

This Federal commitment is critical for the overall, national strategy and the long-term research investments needed to discover the environmental causes of breast cancer, so that we can prevent it, treat it more effectively, and cure it.

It is generally believed that the environment plays some role in the development of breast cancer, but the extent of that role is not understood. More research needs to be done to determine the impact of the environment on breast cancer, which has been understudied in the past.

Less than 30 percent of breast cancers are explained by known risk factors; however, there is little consensus in the scientific community on how the environment impacts breast cancer. Studies have explored the effect of isolated environmental factors such as diet, pesticides, and electromagnetic fields, but in most cases there is no conclusive evidence. Furthermore, there are many other factors that are suspected to play a role but have not been fully studied. These could provide valuable in understanding the causes of breast cancer and could lead to prevention strategies.

We must all work together to find a cure for breast cancer. As we work to achieve that goal, we must continue to create comprehensive programs to study the disease, increase awareness and ensure early detection takes place. We must make a commitment to women who have or will be affected by breast cancer. I am proud to support efforts that will help so many of our sisters, daughters, wives and mothers.

#### INTRODUCTION OF STRATEGIC REFINERY RESERVE

#### HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my colleague from Michigan, Mr. DINGELL, in introducing legislation to expand the nation's refinery capacity by establishing a federal Strategic Refinery Reserve (SRR), which will deliver refined petroleum products to the commercial market during supply emergencies.

The legislation that Congressman DINGELL and I are introducing builds upon the success of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve by taking

the commonsense step of establishing a reserve which can produce refined petroleum products. The presence of such a reserve will ensure the availability of emergency refinery capacity—a need which has been clearly illustrated by the events and high gasoline prices of recent months.

Last year's catastrophic hurricanes, which severely damaged oil refineries in the gulf coast illustrated the nation's vulnerability to a disruption in supply of refined petroleum and exposed shortcomings in our current Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) system. If the nation loses significant refinery capacity, crude released from the SPR cannot be converted easily into refined product such as gasoline or home heating oil. Even with no disruptions, our nation's refineries are running at virtually full capacity meaning that any reduction in our ability to refine product results in an almost immediate increase in gasoline prices.

The legislation we are introducing would help address this vulnerability by requiring the Secretary of Energy to establish and operate a Strategic Refinery Reserve (SRR) with capacity equal to 5 percent of the total United States demand for gasoline, home heating oil and other refined petroleum products. The Secretary may design and construct new facilities or acquire and re-open previously closed facilities.

During non-emergency times the SRR would provide refined product to the federal fleet, including the Department of Defense. Operating the refinery reserve on a full-time basis will ensure that federal fleet and military needs are met, will lessen start up times for SRR refineries to full production during emergencies and will lessen the demand for refined product in the consumer market by freeing additional supply.

During times of emergency, the SRR production could be increased and the resulting refined products could be used in the commercial market. Under the legislation, the Secretary is authorized to use SRR production for commercial use based on two criteria: the same severe supply disruption criteria used to trigger a drawdown of the SPR and upon a Presidential determination of a regional supply shortage.

Our legislation is a common sense approach to ensure that additional refinery capacity is available to provide gasoline during times of energy emergency, and I urge its consideration and approval by the House.

#### NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of America's 2.9 million registered nurses and recognize National Nurses Week, which is celebrated annually May 6–12 throughout the United States. The purpose of National Nurses Week is to raise public awareness of the value of nursing and to help educate the public about the vital roles registered nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the American people.

America's nurses comprise our nation's largest health care profession. They continue to meet the different, emerging, and challenging

health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings. Nurses enhance both primary and preventive health care and are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients.

It is my honor to recognize registered nurses who care for all of us. Today, we celebrate registered nursing's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

#### TRIBUTE TO CALHOUN HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Calhoun High School (CHS) of Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, TX. On January 6–7, 2006 the CHS advanced government class, taught by Gennie Westbrook, traveled to Austin to participate in the Texas State final meet for We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution. Calhoun High School ranked second of the seven schools participating in the meet, which is the highest rank yet achieved by a CHS class. In 1995, 2002, and 2003, the CHS class placed third. Students participating in the state contest were Holly Batchelder, Matthew Boyett, Ryan Cardona, Kenneth Chang, Karl Chen, Andrew Delgado, Carlos Galindo, Julio Herrera, Paul Jenkins, Brian Kao, Dustin Lambden, Kayla Meyer, Jake Prejean, and Thomas Reagan.

Twenty-two CHS juniors accompanied the group as observers. We the People alumnae who also accompanied the group to assist as guest judges for practice times were Jessica Davenport, John Westbrook, Bobby Van Borssum, Redford Hong, William Krause, and Jason Fite.

Local community members who helped the class in their weekly practice sessions after school were Connie Hunt and Assistant District Attorney Shannon Salyer, who have worked with each year's class for several years. Others who assisted the class in preparation this year included District Attorney Dan Heard, Assistant District Attorney Pat Brown, and Texas A&M aerospace PhD student Darren Hartl.

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is a nationally acclaimed civic education program focusing on the history and principles of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. In addition to the requirements of the standard government class, students in this program must master a rigorous curriculum in the background and philosophy of the U.S. Constitution. They participate in oral assessment that involves both prepared and extemporaneous responses to challenging questions. In this nationwide competition, students play the role of "experts in the Constitution," testifying before a mock Congressional hearing. Among other criteria, students are evaluated on their depth of knowledge, ability to apply academic data to current problems, and understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases. Teams of three students each present a four-minute prepared testimony to answer questions they have researched all semester,

and then they respond to extemporaneous follow-up questions from the judges for another six minutes. Judges at the state contest include practicing attorneys, university professors, historians, and legislative staff members.

In 2001, the Center for Civic Education conducted a survey of We the People alumnae, focusing on voting and civic participation. Among the former students, 82 percent reported that they voted in the November 2000 election. In addition, 77 percent had voted in previous elections. By contrast, the National Election Studies reported 48 percent turnout in the November 2000 election by other respondents aged 18–30. Research also indicates that participation in We the People programs helps encourage greater interest in politics and public affairs, increased involvement in government decision making at all levels, greater willingness to respect the opinions and rights of others, and better preparation for the privileges and responsibilities of democratic citizenship. More information about the program may be found at the Center for Civic Education website, <http://www.civiced.org/wethepeople.php>.

We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution is the Advanced U.S. Government class available every fall to Calhoun High School seniors. The first place team from each state traveled to Washington, D.C. for the National Final Competition on April 29–May 1, 2006. McAllen's Lamar Academy team, taught by LeAnna Morse, won first place this year in Texas, and her class often receives Honorable Mention as one of the top 10 schools at the national final meet.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate teacher Gennie Westbrook, the students of Calhoun High School and all the others participating in this important effort.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE EARLY CAREER RESEARCH ACT AND THE RESEARCH FOR COMPETITIVENESS ACT

### HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Early Career Research Act and the Research for Competitiveness Act. These bills expand and strengthen science and engineering research programs at the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy to encourage young scientists and engineers to pursue innovative research that could lead to the major scientific breakthroughs of tomorrow.

President Bush, in his State of the Union Address, articulated the link between science and engineering research and national competitiveness. I agree with the President. Like him, I believe that science shapes the future. And, like him, I believe that for America to remain number one in the world, it must remain number one in science. I want to ensure that the highly-innovative, highly-productive industries of tomorrow are created here in America and stay in America to provide high-wage jobs for our children and grandchildren.

Texas is one of the world's leading technology centers and I have the privilege of representing Texas' high-tech core. In Texas, we

know that science and technology are the wellsprings of economic competitiveness and national strength.

In December of last year, Mr. Richard Templeton, President and CEO of Texas Instruments, came to Washington to lead the National Summit on Competitiveness. The theme of that Summit was "Investing in U.S. Innovation." Mr. Templeton and 60 business, academic, and government leaders, including four Cabinet Secretaries, came together to discuss the competitiveness challenge posed by globalization and the rise of new economic competitors, such as India and China. Mr. Templeton and his business and academic colleagues told the President and the Congress that our government must do more to foster America's capacity to innovate by focusing on the health of the American scientific enterprise.

The President rose to the challenge and proposed The American Competitiveness Initiative, a bold plan to double Federal investments in fundamental physical science research over 10 years at three science agencies: the National Science Foundation, the Office of Science in the Department of Energy, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

My bills build upon the President's initiative and focus on fostering innovation by providing grants to promising young researchers to pursue research that could lead to the technology breakthroughs of tomorrow. One of my bills provides for matching funds from industry to promote closer ties between academic and industrial researchers.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that so many business, science, and educational organizations have endorsed my bill, including Texas Instruments, AeA (formerly the American Electronics Association), the Telecommunications Industry Association, the Electronics Industries Alliance, the Council on Competitiveness, the Battelle Memorial Institute, the American Chemical Society, the Association of American Universities, and a host of other organizations. I am grateful for their support. Together, we can ensure that America remains first in science and first in economic competitiveness—so that Americans can continue to enjoy the highest standard of living in the world.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION FOR COMPETITIVENESS ACT

**HON. JOHN J.H. "JOE" SCHWARZ**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Science

and Mathematics Education for Competitiveness Act. The bill expands and strengthens math and science education programs at the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy to improve the math and science literacy of our nation and prepare our young people for the high-tech, high-wage jobs of tomorrow.

President Bush, in his State of the Union Address, articulated the link between math and science education and national competitiveness. I agree with the President. Like him, I want to ensure that the 21st Century remains "the next American century." And, like him, I want to ensure that Americans continue to enjoy the highest standard of living in the world.

The jobs of today require a higher level of math and science skills than ever before. The jobs of tomorrow will be even more demanding. And we know that the rest of the world is not standing still. In an increasingly globalized economy, our children and grandchildren will be competing with highly-skilled, highly-educated workers around the world for high-wage jobs in high-value-added industries. I want to make sure that those industries and those jobs stay here in America. To do that, our nation's business leaders tell us that we have to boost the math and science skills of American students.

I know of no better way to improve math and science education in this country than to build upon the successful programs of the National Science Foundation and to expand the ability of some of America's most brilliant scientists and engineers in the Department of Energy to lend their talent and expertise to the education of U.S. students.

In crafting my bill, I focused on what already works and I sought to minimize the creation of new programs. Based on testimony offered in a series of hearings in the Science Committee, and on recommendations offered in a series of reports by American business and academic leaders, my bill focuses on encouraging more teachers to specialize in teaching math and science, and encouraging more students to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees in math, science, and engineering.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that so many business and educational organizations have endorsed my bill, including Texas Instruments, AeA (formerly the American Electronics Association), the Telecommunications Industry Association, the Electronics Industries Alliance, the Council on Competitiveness, the Battelle Memorial Institute, the American Chemical Society, the National Education Association, the National Science Teachers Association, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Geological Institute, the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Education Coalition, the

Council of Graduate Schools, the Association of American Universities, and a host of other organizations. I am grateful for their support. Together, we can ensure that America remains the most competitive nation in the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING

**HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Toyota Motor Manufacturing on their 10th anniversary of operation in Princeton, Indiana. Since 1996, Toyota has been a top contributor to both the economy and the community life of southern Indiana. During the past 10 years, Toyota has both harnessed the excellent workforce and favorable business conditions available in our region, and has invested time and resources back into our local people and businesses.

The Princeton Toyota plant opened their doors with an initial investment of \$700 million, employing 1,300 team members with a production rate of 100,000 trucks per year. In just 10 years, production has skyrocketed to 300,000 vehicles per year, including the Tundra full-size pickup truck, Sequoia SUV, and Sienna minivan. With the recent addition of another plant in Lafayette, Toyota is now the largest automaker in Indiana.

A study released by University of Evansville and University of Southern Indiana determined that Toyota's annual economic impact in Indiana equals 31,385 jobs, \$502.9 million in employee compensation, and \$5.5 billion in business sales, representing a significant influence on the economy of southwest Indiana, and the state as a whole. In Gibson County alone, Toyota generates 8,865 jobs, \$118.9 million in employee compensation, \$518.6 million in business sales. The Evansville area enjoys 12,990 jobs, \$341.7 million in employee compensation, and \$1.4 billion in business sales as a result of Toyota.

In addition to their positive economic impact, Toyota has been a wonderful neighbor to Princeton and the surrounding communities. Toyota is proactively involved in educational and charitable initiatives by awarding scholarships to local students, and providing grants to local schools and non-profit organizations. I am pleased to commend Toyota as an example of good citizenship.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Toyota on 10 years of outstanding service and contribution to southern Indiana.